Air Resources Board



Robert F. Sawyer, Ph.D., Chair 1001 I Street • P.O. Box 2815 Sacramento, California 95812 • www.arb.ca.gov



July 27, 2006

To: Public, Interested Community Members, Government Officials, and Industry Representatives

Staff of the Air Resources Board (ARB) invite you to participate in two public workshops to discuss the draft ARB Railyard Health Risk Assessment Guidelines (guidelines). The draft guidelines include the requirements for the development of an emissions inventory, air dispersion modeling, and health risk assessments for 16 major railyards designated in the Statewide Railyard Agreement (Agreement). These meetings are being held to provide an opportunity for community members to ask questions and to provide comments on the draft guidelines. The draft guidelines are currently available at the ARB's railyard website: http://www.arb.ca.gov/railyard/hra/hra.htm.

The public workshops will be held in Northern California (Sacramento) and in Southern California (City of Commerce). The locations, dates, and times of the meetings are listed below:

Northern California

August 28, 2006 (Monday) 2:00 P.M.-5:00 P.M. California Air Resources Board Byron Sher Auditorium, 2nd Floor 1001 I Street Sacramento, California 95814

Southern California

August 30, 2006 (Wednesday) 6:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M. City of Commerce City Hall – Council Chambers 2535 Commerce Way Commerce, California 90040

The agenda for the public workshops is attached.

Please contact ARB's Disability Coordinator at (916) 323-4916 by voice or through the California Relay Services at 711, to place your request for disability services. If you are a person with limited English and would like to request interpreter services, please contact ARB's Bilingual Manager at (916) 323-7053.

These workshops will be webcast. You may access the webcast at ARB's homepage: http://www.arb.ca.gov/app/calendar/cal_wbcst.php. In addition, this public meeting will have teleconference capabilities. To participate by teleconference, dial (888) 391-3141 and give the participant code: 43724 and leader name: Harold Holmes.

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our website: http://www.arb.ca.gov.

California Environmental Protection Agency

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The 2005 ARB/Railroads Statewide Agreement requires ARB and Union Pacific Railroad and BNSF Railway to prepare Health Risk Assessments (HRAs) for the 16 major rail yards in the state. ARB and the railroads have agreed to prepare nine draft rail yard HRAs by December 31, 2006 and an additional seven draft rail yard HRAs by December 31, 2007. The draft railyard HRAs will include emissions of toxic air contaminants from emission sources at each of the designated rail yards including resident and transient locomotives, on- and off-road equipment, and stationary equipment, and the associated health risk from on-site activities. Under the Agreement, ARB staff is required to prepare guidelines to ensure that consistent data and methodologies are employed statewide in the development of the rail yard HRAs.

If you have questions about the upcoming public workshops, please feel free to contact me at (916) 322-6020 or Mr. Harold Holmes, Manager, Engineering Evaluation Section at (916) 324-8029.

Sincerely,

For Dean Simeroth, Chief

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Criteria Pollutants Branch

Attachment

CC:

Mr. Harold Holmes, Manager Engineering Evaluation Section

AGENDA

STATEWIDE RAILYARD AGREEMENT

Public Workshops to Discuss the Draft ARB Health Risk Assessment Railyard Guidelines

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- Introductions
- Background
- Staff Presentation on the Draft ARB Railyard HRA Guidelines
- Public Comments
- Adjourn